CONGREGATIONAL-
PLYMOUTH CHURCH
OF THE PILGRIMS, N.Y.

DRAWER 4A CHURCHES

71 2019 085 03219

Abraham Lincoln and religion

Congregational

Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, N.Y.

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

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PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMS (Congregational) Brooklyn, N. Y., is noted for liberal independence and classic architectural simplicity. Its many treasures include unusual historical windows, pulpit furniture of wood from the Mount of Olives, a fragment of Plymouth Rock, and the pew in which Lincoln sat to hear Henry Ward Beecher.

Photo by Molitor

Color by DEXTER COLOR NEW YORK, Inc., 274 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.

PLACE STAMP HERE

POST CARD

Very Slightly to the Right of the Pulpit About 4 rows Back, in the Lincoln Pew

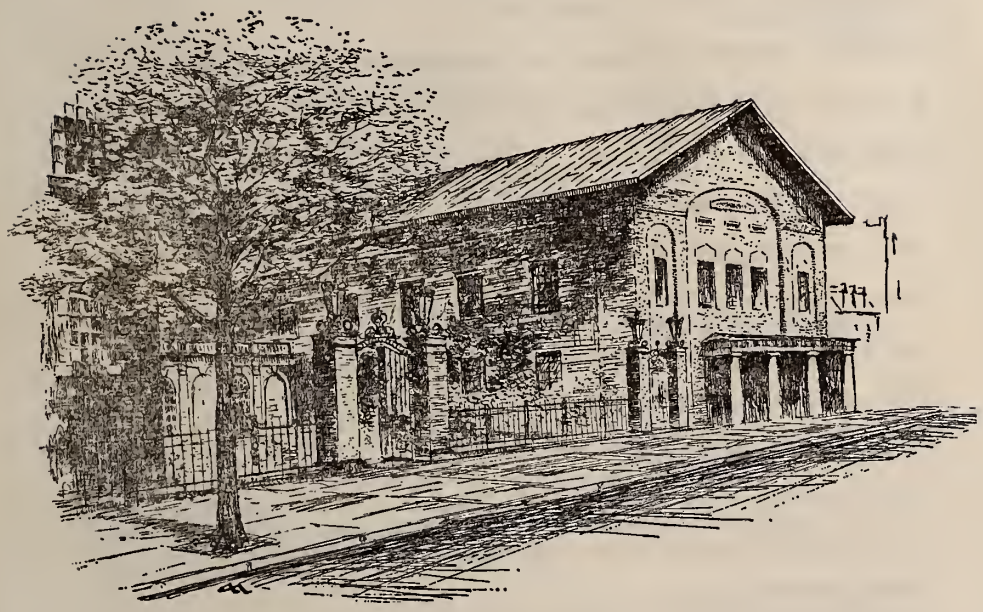
21710-B

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMS

(CONGREGATIONAL)

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

NEW YORK



HARRY H. KRUENER
MINISTER

STANLEY K. RICE
ASSISTANT MINISTER

HENRY PFOHL
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

ARNOLD OSTLUND, JR.
ORGANIST

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 27, 1963

See "Stained Glass"
("Sculpture - plaque")

MORNING WORSHIP AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK

(The Congregation is requested to preserve silence and to engage in meditation and prayer)

Organ Preludes .....Johannes Brahms

O world, I now must leave thee
O God, thou faithful God
My heart is filled with longing

Choral Introit

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart,
be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Hymn No. 337—I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

The Call to Worship—(The Congregation will remain standing through the Gloria.)

Invocation and the Lord's Prayer— "Forgive us our trespasses"

Gloria Patri

Reception of Members

The Scripture Reading—Acts 22: 1-15

Contemplation before Prayer—(Sung by the Choir)

God of pity, God of grace, When we humbly seek Thy face,
Bend from heaven, Thy dwelling place; Hear, forgive, and save.

Pastoral Prayer—(Choral Amen)

Announcements and Offertory

Offertory Anthem for All Saints Sunday—Requiem (Part VII) .....Johannes Brahms

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, saith the Spirit, that they rest from their labours, and that their works do follow after them.

Doxology and Prayer

(The Congregation will be seated after the prayer, then, rise for the hymn.)

Hymn for Reformation Sunday No. 266—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

The Sermon—"The Human Side of Luther" .....Mr. Kruener

Hymn No. 77—Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Benediction and Choral Response—(Congregation seated)

Go we in peace, now, O Lord, Led by the light of Thy Word.
Keep us near Thee, Faithful to Thee. Amen.

Period of Silent Prayer

Organ Postlude—O Blessed Jesu .....Johannes Brahms

The flowers are in loving memory of
Mr. Herbert F. Hanson and Mr. John F. Hanson

FOR YOUR MEDITATION

"I thought of the righteousness of God, and wished his gospel had never been put to paper for men to read; who demanded my love and made it impossible to return it. And I sat in my heap of pain until the words emerged and opened out. 'The just shall live by faith' . . . I could see the life I'd lost. No man is just because he does just works. The works are just if the man is just. If a man doesn't believe in Christ, not only are his sins mortal, but his good works —The truth is that the just shall live by faith alone. I need no more than my sweet redeemer and meditator, Jesus Christ, and I shall praise Him as long as I have voice to sing; and if anyone doesn't care to sing with me, then he can howl on his own. If we are going to be deserted, let's follow the deserted Christ."

from the new play, LUTHER
by John Osborne

The Offertory Prayer today will be offered by Dr. John N. Edson.

Baptisms on October 20, 1963
Henry Day Brigham 3rd — Born June 19, 1963 —
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Day Brigham, Jr.
John Williams Wingate 2nd — Born March 16, 1963 —
Son of Mr. & Mrs. John Wingate
Robert Shotwell Taft — Born June 5, 1963 —
Son of Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Taft

on October 13, 1963
Karen Sillas — Born June 5, 1963 — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George Sillas.

Leaflets describing the recently organized Memorial Society of Brooklyn are now available on the literature racks in the lobby of the church and in Hillis Hall. The leaflets describe the aims of the organization, which are to promote dignity and simplicity in funeral arrangements and to offer guidance to the community and to individuals in the making of preliminary arrangements therefrom. Registration forms are included and may be filled out and sent to the church office.

Mrs. Herbert Hanson, of our own church staff, is acting as Secretary for this particular community service inaugurated by several Churches and the Synagogue on the Heights.

The Women's Guild workrooms will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 29th. Lunch at 1:00 o'clock. At 2:15 there will be a Home Missions Program in the Reception Room. Rev. Calvin O. Pressley of the Church of the Open Door will speak on the topic, "That They May Have Life." Devotions by Miss Adelaide B. Harrison. Following the program tea will be served. All women are urged to attend.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Braille Service Club, Inc. will be held on Thursday, October 31st, at 6:30 p.m. in Hillis Hall. Reservations close today. See Mrs. Mildred Smith at the Coffee Hour.

New Braille Classes are being formed as follows:

Braille Music—Monday evening—7:00-8:15 p.m., starting Oct. 28, 1963
Standard English Braille
Day Class — Tuesday — 2:15-3:30 p.m., starting Oct. 29, 1963
Evening Class—Wednesday—7:00-8:15 p.m., starting Oct. 30, 1963
All classes at Plymouth Church House — 75 Hicks Street.
Please register by 'phoning MA 4-4743 **before the date** of the first class.

Last chance to be a Booster for the 1963 Yankee Fair sponsored by the Women's Guild. See Miss Bess Pawson at the door in Hillis Hall. Fifty cents per name for adults and twenty-five cents for Children.

Ushers for the month of October: Captain: Mr. Sebastian Steiner; Mr. John Bartels, Jr., Mr. Robert S. Coates, Mr. Thomas Glover, Mr. William Greenawalt, Mr. Bruce Herbert, Mr. Reo C. Miles, Mr. Sterling E. Soderlind, Mr. Ernest Ucko.

The annual campaign of the United Hospital Fund and Visiting Nurse Association of Brooklyn commences October 31st and continues through November 9th. Contributions from the general public will be received that week.

Between now and Pledge Sunday, November 10th, we are entering a period of contemplation of our own involvement in the Church and its Mission. The generosity of our giving will reflect our spiritual health and the extent of our Christian commitment. Your pledge is a belief coupled with a deed. Prayerfully consider it and make it worthy of the source that binds man to God.

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sunday Oct. 27

10:00 — Church Membership Class in Mr. Rice's study
10:00 — Junior-High — Senior-High Church School Class
10:25 — Choir Rehearsal and Nursery
11:00 — Church School — Nursery through Junior
11:00 — Morning Worship followed by **coffee hour** in Hillis Hall, with the Women's Guild in charge. Those desiring a **tour** of the church and church house are invited to meet at the Lincoln Pew, 89, following the service. Tour guide: Mrs. Kathryn Steiner.
4:00 — Pilgrim Youth Fellowship for Junior High and Senior High young people. Discussion: Donald Witlin; Devotions: Candice Sayner.
5:00 - 8:00 — Brooklyn Student Christian Association meeting in the 75 Room. All college students are invited to attend.
8:00 — Theological Discussion Group No. 1, for young couples at the Parsonage, 184 Columbia Heights. Discussion: "Honest to God."

Monday Oct. 28

2:30 - 4:30 — Rhythmic classes for pre-school and kindergarten children
3:15 — Junior Choir Rehearsal and Halloween Party
7:00 - 8:15 — Braille Music Class

Tuesday Oct. 29

10:00 - 1:00 — Women's Guild workrooms — Braille, Sewing & Surgical Dressings
1:00 — Lunch — bring sandwich, beverage served 10 cents.
2:15 — Home Missions Program and Tea. (See announcement inside)
2:15 — Braille Class

Wednesday Oct. 30

10:30 — Staff Meeting
6:30 — Cub Scouts
7:00 - 8:15 — Braille Class

Thursday Oct. 31

3:30 — Girl Scouts
6:30 — Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Braille Service Club. (See announcement inside)
8:00 — Choir Rehearsal. New members welcome. See Henry Pfohl, Director of Music.

Friday Nov. 1

10:30 - 3:00 — The World Community Day will be celebrated by the United Church Women of Brooklyn. A box lunch will be served at 12:15 in Hillis Hall. Registration 75 cents.

Saturday Nov. 2

11:00 - 2:00 — Recreation Group for all interested. Basketball, volleyball, etc.

CHURCH STAFF

BEATRICE M. LOENNECKE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MRS. T. TOMLINSON
CHURCH HOUSE RECEPTIONIST

MISS ELIDA O. HANSEN
MRS. ELEANOR NUBILE
OFFICE SECRETARIES

CHURCH PHONE
MAIN 4-4743

MRS. HERBERT F. HANSON
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

MR. ADRIAN GROZINGER
EVENING RECEPTIONIST

MR. HAROLD NYGAARD
RESIDENT CUSTODIAN

MR. HERMAN BUCK
CUSTODIAN

Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims

Brooklyn, N. Y.

A Brief Description of the Church and an Invitation to Membership

Plymouth Church, formed in 1847, and the Church of the Pilgrims, established in 1844, were merged in 1934 to form the present church. Over the years such famous men as Abraham Lincoln, Horace Greeley, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain and Booker T. Washington have worshipped here. The Lincoln Pew 89, is marked with a silver plaque.

Henry Ward Beecher was the first minister of Plymouth Church and his efforts to free the slaves are memorialized by a statue and bas relief of Lincoln, both executed by Gutzon Borglum and placed in the patio and formal garden.

The Memorial Arcade, leading from the Sanctuary to the Church House, contains portraits of past ministers and a fragment of Plymouth Rock. There is also an oil painting of Henry Ward Beecher and "Pinky," the little slave girl, commemorating the occasion of the purchase of her freedom.

The Sanctuary, Colonial in style, has an unusual set of stained-glass windows commemorating the influence of Puritanism upon American life. One, the Roger Williams window, was presented by the late Lord Northcliffe in a gesture of gratitude for the American window in Shakespeare's church at Stratford.

The broad theme is that of political, intellectual and religious liberty, and such champions of freedom as John Milton, John Eliot, Thomas Hooker, William Penn, Daniel Webster, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mary Lyon, Emma Willard and Catharine Beecher are depicted.

The pulpit furniture is constructed from an olive tree brought from the Mount of Olives in 1868 by members of an excursion to the Holy Land, the occasion made famous by Mark Twain in his book, "Innocents Abroad."

Hillis Hall, immediately behind the pulpit, contains several beautiful Tiffany windows removed from the former Church of the Pilgrims, and a Chapel where can be seen an impressive copy of DaVinci's "Last Supper" by the eminent Italian painter, Luigi Antoldi.

In July 1961 Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims was selected as a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior, United States Government. The formal dedication was held on February 10, 1963. The Church was also designated as one of the "Landmarks of New York" commemorating the national and historic significance of the Church building by the New York Community Trust.

Plymouth Church, proud of its history, endeavors to maintain a vital witness through its dynamic pulpit ministry, its music program, its christian education for adults, youth and children, its community outreach through the Nursery Day School and its social and religious activities.

The activities of our church are carried on in the Sanctuary, Hillis Hall used for dining and large assemblies, the Chapel, and the Church House, which contains the ministers' studies, the offices, reception room, church school class rooms, a gymnasium and bowling alleys.

MEMBERSHIP IN PLYMOUTH CHURCH is open to all those who sincerely wish to follow Jesus Christ as their Lord. The sign of no creed is required. Members come from many denominational backgrounds and the church actively cooperates with the National Council of Churches and the City and Brooklyn Councils. A person may join in one of four ways: first, by baptism; second, by letter from a Congregational church; third, by a letter from a Protestant church of any evangelical denomination; finally, if one has been a member of a church but allowed his membership to lapse, by reaffirmation of faith.

In any case, the person should speak to the Ministers after the Morning Services or indicate his or her interest by using one of the cards in the pews. If you are living in or near Brooklyn Heights and have as yet no nearby church connection, we sincerely invite you into our fellowship.

Church phone - MAin 4-4743
75 Hicks Street

Minister - Harry H. Kruener
Assistant Minister - Stanley K. Rice

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Plymouth Church, Hillis Hall, The Beecher Arcade, and Plymouth Church House.

Plymouth Church was founded in 1847; the present building erected in 1849. The Church Auditorium (seating 1440 persons) contains many interesting features; the pulpit furniture made from a tree brought from the Mount of Olives in 1868; the Pew, marked with a silver plaque, in which Abraham Lincoln worshipped upon his visit to Plymouth Church; and the historical stained-glass windows (installed 1907-1908) depicting "The History of Puritanism and Its Influence Upon the Institutions and People of the Republic." In 1958 the Sanctuary was redecorated, its beauty enhancing the morning worship service.

Hillis Hall, the latest addition to the church plant, is used for dining room (seating 360) and lecture room purposes. The ecclesiastical stained-glass windows (many designed by Tiffany) are from the former Church of the Pilgrims which merged with Plymouth Church in 1934. Hillis Hall also houses a modern stainless-steel kitchen and Pilgrim Chapel (seating 100,) the focal point of which is a copy of DaVinci's "The Last Supper" by Luigi Antoldi. Hillis Hall was destroyed by fire in 1920 and reconstructed in 1953.

The Arcade connects the Church and Hillis Hall with the Church House. In it may be seen the five portraits of the former ministers of Plymouth Church; a portion of Plymouth Rock taken from the former Church of the Pilgrims; and a portrait of Henry Ward Beecher with "Pinky," the slave girl auctioned off for her freedom in Plymouth Church in 1860. At the far end of the Arcade there are portraits of Richard Salter Storrs, the first minister of the Church of the Pilgrims, and Henry Ward Beecher, the first minister of Plymouth Church. There is also a mosaic plaque in memory of Dr. Storrs.

Plymouth Church House was built in 1913, the gift of John Arbuckle, and is equipped with meeting rooms, church school class rooms, kitchenette, reception room, work rooms, administrative offices, board rooms, gymnasium, bowling alleys, and a library containing books, sermons, and other memorabilia of the former ministers of the church.

In July 1961 Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims was selected as a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior, United States Government, and was also designated as one of the "Landmarks of New York" commemorating the national and historic significance of the Church building by the New York Community Trust.

Plymouth Church, proud of its history, endeavors to maintain a vital witness through its dynamic pulpit ministry, its Christian education, its community and world outreach and its social and recreational activities.

Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, Orange and Hicks Streets, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Doctor McMurtry

3 Nov '63

Recently visited Plymouth Church, in Brooklyn.

To get there take South-bound 7th Ave Express get off at Clark St stop this is across St George Hotel stop. Walk about three blocks to Hicks and Orange streets.

You will come to the building erected 1849, on your right. First you will come to the four white-post portico, then the court yard then around the corner you will find the Church office in the Parish Hall Bldg. Entrance from Hicks St

Between the original Building is a courtyard about 125 by 100 feet. ~~The courtyard is handsomely well kept, is~~ between the sidewalk and the handsomely well kept court yard is a massive ornamental iron fence - See illus. About the center from right - to left and across the lawn and against the Brick wall is a statue of H. W. Beecher and a plaque of Lincoln in bas relief. The plaque is imbedded in the Brick wall, about 5 or 6 feet high and 3-4 feet wide, adjacent to and on the left of Beecher, is of Handsome green Bronze, shows a seated Lincoln with his legs crossed. He is sitting facing Beecher who is to the right of Al. The fence is securely locked.

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3 Nov '63

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The standing statue of Mister B; he is depicted as not tall at all, in fact he reminds me of Douglas;-portly. His right hand is extended as if in an oratorical gesture. On his lower left further down, on the pedestral are 2 female figures. The one sitting up straight facing the street (as is "B") the other sitting more-or-less somewhat sideways. She is leaning left (away from street) burying her face in her right arm, she seems to be in distress and leaning on the other for help and encouragement. AC is shown facing toward the old (1847) Plymouth church.

He in his seated position is unquestionably sitting in much the same position as he might very naturally be if he were attending church services or in his white House office listening to an appeal from some mother to keep his soldier son. He appears dejected and yet sympathetic.

as
I Especially wanted to carefully
observe the Lincoln stained-glass
church window, I ascended the
stairs to the Balcony. The stairs and
all the aisles are covered with red
carpet. The walls and vertical sides
of the pews and the stairway is in
all-white. The top railing of the pew
and of the stair rails are in Mahogany. The
Effect is Elegantly handsome and dignified.
THE BALCONY is horse-shoe shaped on 3 sides of the Bldg. The
front part over the pulpit is the Choir Loft.

Take a good look at the outside of the church
as pictured on the Church Bulletin; notice
the 5 windows on the front of the Church.
Of these over the columned portico, the center
one is where the Lincoln window is located

However! the Brick window opening is of much greater dimension than the AC window in the Center of the rear Gallery of the Church. The AC window is approx 3x6 feet. AC's coat is a strongly-colored Bluish-purple, he is Bare headed, standing fully Erect, His figure is fully shown, His left arm stretched down with his hand Empty. His right hand clasps a sheaf of white papers and seems to be resting on what is perhaps a table or desk -(at about Hip high) It is a good, strong, colorful, window, in fact rather handsome tho the predominant Color is the Purplish-Blue Coat.

Standing in the 5-rows-of seats Balcony and Looking down on the audiorium main floor the Pulpit and the Organ one can

3 Nov 63

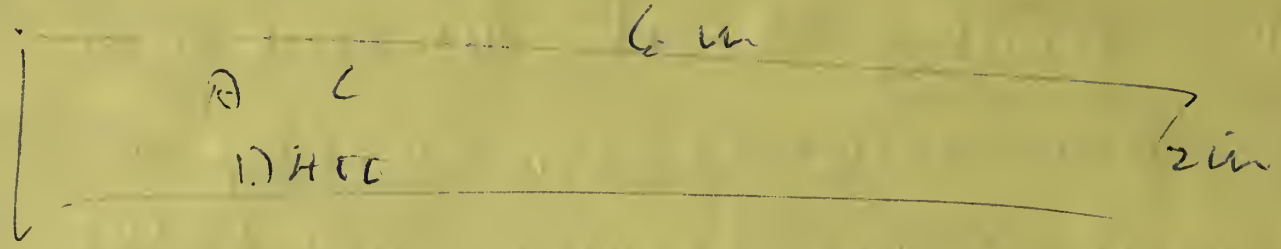
Easily observe (and identify) the pew #89 is on the aisle second from left facing front of Church. There are 4 such aisles from all the way back clear up to the pulpit. Q nice looking and sturdy oak table holds 12 alms basins 12 in across the top I believe (in case) they are Sterling. (I wonder why they don't keep them locked up? I wandered all over the church by myself.)

The minister's platform is almost, not quite shoulder high.

At #89 pew is about 18 feet from Memorial Pulpit 4th row pew from front, Enter from second aisle (from left as one comes in) The Sterling silver plate 6 x 2 inches slabs very

simply

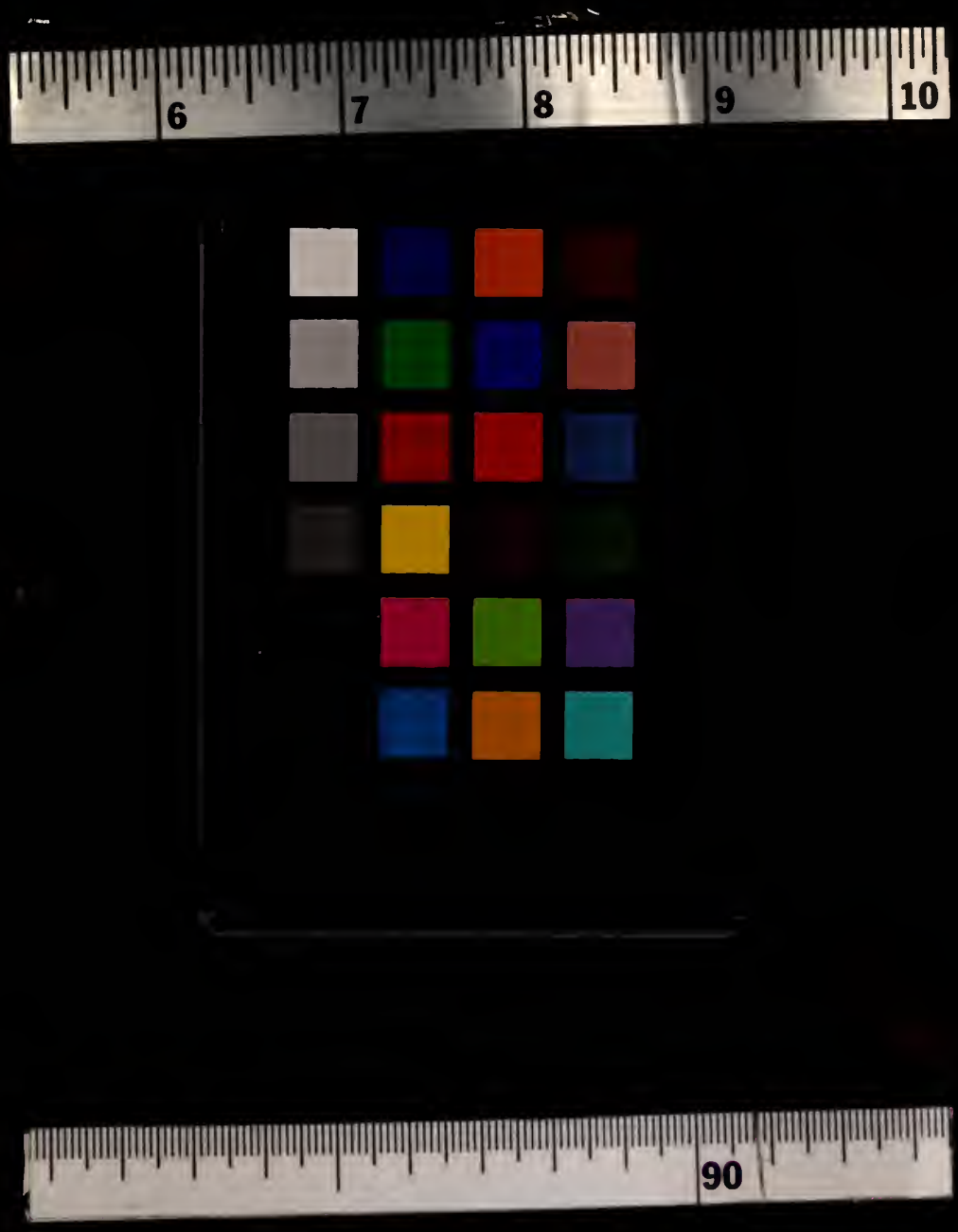
The fac-simile of L's signature, and under it the date; February 26 - 1860



In the Subway station there is at the intersecting Hallways on the Corner a Brass framed Glass Enclosed Case Containing Encouragement and invitation to Come to Plymouth Congregational. Part of the display is a 8x10 in-color Photo of the interior of the church, taken from the Balcony. as Tom Bert Sheldon

CONGREGATIONAL
PLYMOUTH CHURCH
OF THE PILGRIMS, N.Y.

DRAWER 4A CHURCHES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